

## **The Pentatonic**

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### **Introduction**

If there was ever a music god who invented pentatonics, it was certainly a guitarist. Hardly any other instrument is so focused on pentatonics as the guitar. This is probably mainly due to the fact that the pentatonic lies so easily and loosely on the fingerboard of the guitar and that you can play without any theoretical knowledge and it sounds officially correct. The typical e-guitar sound with pentatonic has become so firmly established in people's minds.

Pentatonic actually comes from Asia, although it is used somewhat differently there and sounds rather annoying to European ears there.

Pentatonic comes from the Greek penta = 5 and means nothing else than a scale with only 5 notes. A distinction is made between the minor and the major pentatonic.

### **Minor Pentatonic**

The minor pentatonic consists of the interval steps 1, b3, 4, 5, b7 and is used mainly in minor pieces or in blues. On the guitar there are 5 positions in total. In most cases the positions 1 and 4 are used. The other positions are used to connect the frequently used positions. Experienced guitarists, however, master all 5 positions.

Here you will find all 5 positions of the A minor pentatonic. With this you can play either in a piece in A minor or with a blues in A. If a piece is in a different key, you simply have to move the position according to the root note which is marked with 1. For example, the minor pentatonic in G is simply 2 frets lower.

Here you can see the tones on the lowest 3 strings if you don't know where the corresponding tones are:

#### **6th - string ( E ) :**

E / F / F# , Gb / G / G# , Ab / A / A# , Bb / B / C / C# , Db / D / D# , Eb / E

#### **5th . string ( A ) :**

A / A# , Bb / B / C / C# , Db / D / D# , Eb / E / F / F# , Gb / G / G# , Ab / A

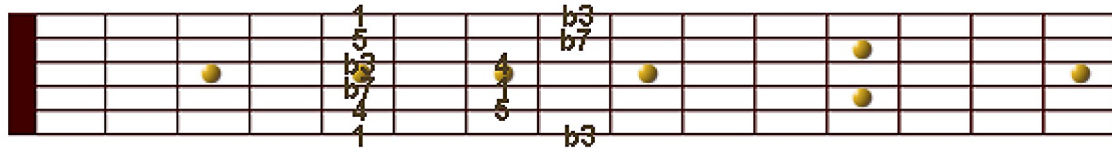
#### **4th . string ( D ) :**

D / D# , Eb / E / F / F# , Gb / G / G# , Ab / A / A# , Bb / B / C / C# , Db / D

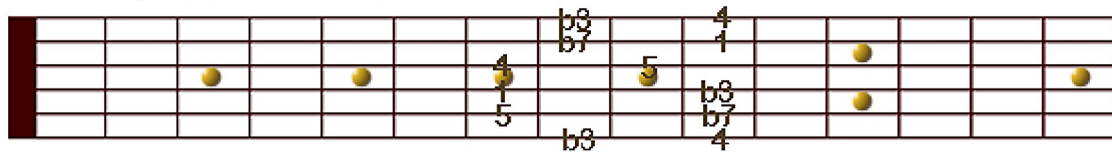
**Here you find the 5 positions of the A - minor pentatonic :**

## Mollpentatonik in A, Pattern 1 - 5

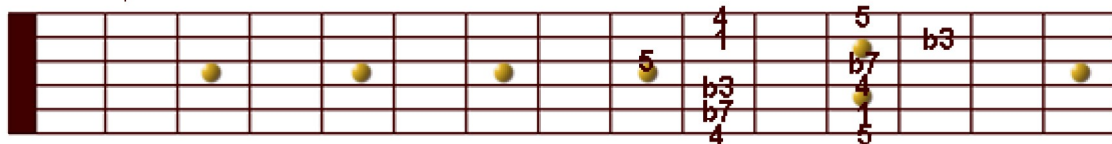
A minor pentatonic: Pattern 1



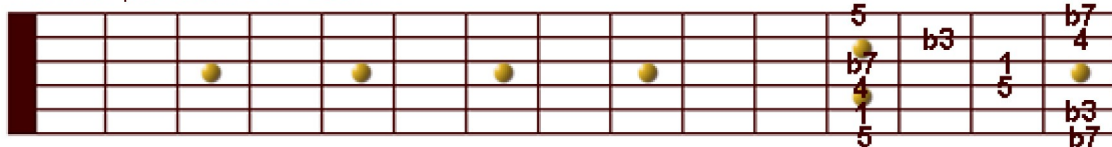
A minor pentatonic: Pattern 2



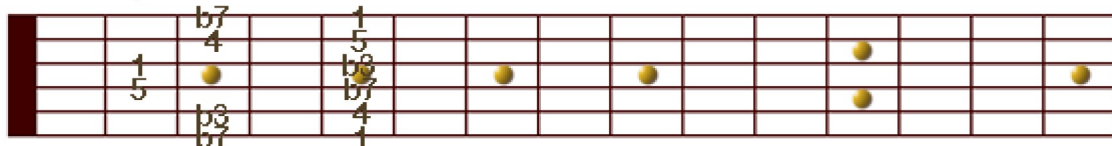
A minor pentatonic : Pattern 3



A minor pentatonic : Pattern 4



A minor pentatonic : Pattern 5



### Major Pentatonic

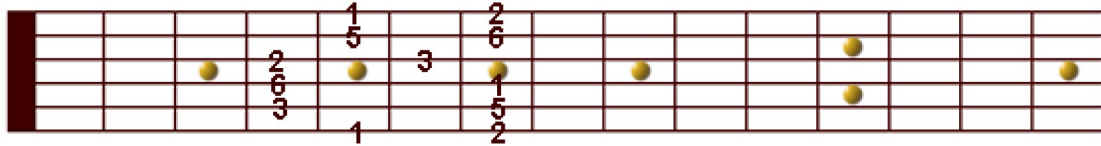
The major pentatonic key is mainly used in pieces that are in major. It doesn't sound as good as the minor pentatonic, because the Asian touch comes in quickly, but if you use it correctly it is an easy way to play pieces in major.

The major pentatonic consists of the interval steps " 1 2 3 5 6 ".

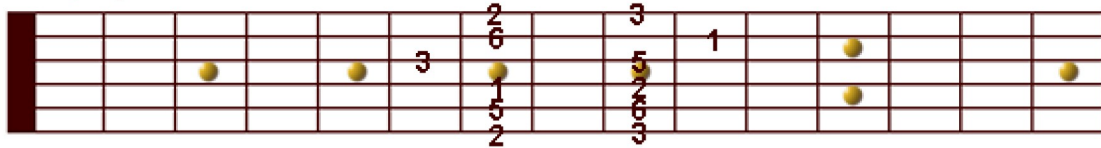
Here you find the major pentatonic in A. For other keys, simply move it accordingly again.

## Durpentatonik in A, Pattern 1 - 5

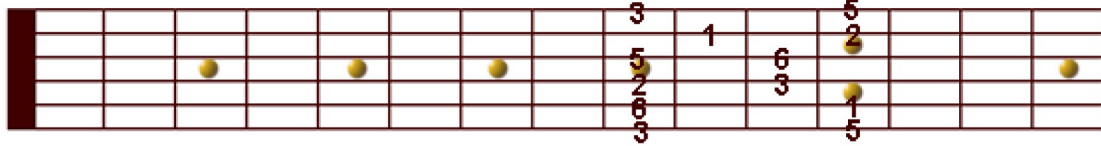
A major pentatonic : Pattern 1



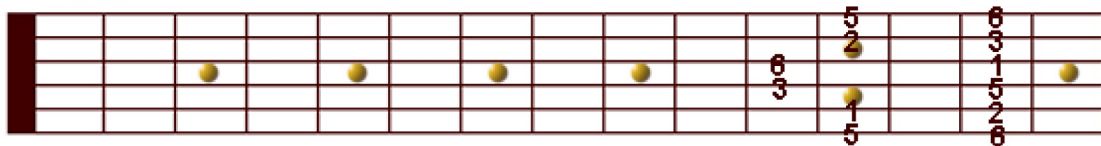
A major pentatonic : Pattern 2



A major pentatonic : Pattern 3



A major pentatonic : Pattern 4



A major pentatonic : Pattern 5

